

Dear Julie,

I am a landscape architect and landscape contractor, and I have been designing and installing landscapes in Southern California for about 30 years. I have no problem with designing and installing water conserving landscapes; I've been doing that as long as I have been practicing.

I do think it is odd, however, that part of your ordinance change involves changing the co-efficients of your mathematical formula for determining water use. Your ordinance language changes make no mention of a discovery on your part of mistakes in your original determinations. Why, then, would you change those?

Without going in and figuring out what your changed numbers would mean to a theoretical project calculation, I cannot say whether or not these changes would have a problematic impact on my work going forward; maybe they will not. Nonetheless, it is as if you had decided that Pi was no longer 3.14. That would be very odd, unless you had explained why you had come to a new determination about it. I would like you to hold off on issuing new formula calculations until you have had the time to explain why they are necessary.

Sincerely,

Melinda Taylor